

IN THE CLAIMS

*The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:*

1. (*Currently Amended*) An audio output apparatus comprising:

a measuring unit that measures levels of a plurality of input[[ted]] sound signals;  
a sound level adjusting unit that adjusts gains based on the levels measured by the measuring unit and outputs so that the plurality of sound signals in have equal magnitudes; and  
an array speaker unit which having a plurality of speaker units and a delay circuit for each of the adjusted sound signals,

wherein each of the speaker units receives a predetermined delay from one of the delay circuits to emit[[s]] a plurality of sounds from the speaker units in accordance with the plurality of adjusted sound signals outputted from the sound level adjusting means in different directivities, respectively.

2. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the measuring unit separates the ~~plurality of the sound signals~~ into a plurality of frequency bands to measure levels, and

the sound level adjusting unit assigns weights on the measured levels of the frequency bands with a predetermined weight for each of the frequency bands[[,]] and adjusts the gains based on the weighted levels of the individual frequency bands, and outputs the plurality of so that the sound signals are in equal magnitudes.

3. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the measuring unit separates the ~~plurality of the sound signals~~ into a plurality of frequency bands to measure levels, and

the sound level adjusting unit ~~adjusts and outputs gains so that the plurality of the sound signals is~~ are made to have equal magnitudes for each of the frequency bands based on the measured levels of the respective frequency bands.

4. (*Currently Amended*) An audio output apparatus comprising:

a measuring unit that measures levels of a plurality of input[[ted]] sound signals;  
a sound level adjusting unit that adjusts gains based on the levels measured by the measuring unit and ~~outputs a plurality of sound signals so that a level difference between at~~

least two sound signals specified by a viewer is made constant among ~~the plurality of the sound signals~~; and

an array speaker unit ~~which~~ having a plurality of speaker units and a delay circuit for each of the adjusted sound signals,

wherein each of the speaker units receives a predetermined delay from one of the delay circuits to emit[[s]] a plurality of sounds from the speaker units in accordance with ~~the plurality of the adjusted sound signals outputted from the sound level adjusting unit~~ in different directivities-respectively.

5. *(Currently Amended)* An audio output apparatus comprising:

a measuring unit that measures levels of a plurality of input[[ted]] sound signals;

a compression unit that compresses a plurality of dynamic ranges of the sound signals to a predetermined value or below based on the levels measured by the measuring unit and outputs a plurality of sound signals after the dynamic ranges are compressed; and

an array speaker unit ~~which~~ having a plurality of speaker units and a delay circuit for each of the plurality of sound signals output from the compression unit,

wherein each of the speaker units receives a predetermined delay from one of the delay circuits to emit[[s]] a plurality of sounds from the speaker units in accordance with ~~the plurality of the sound signals output[[ted]] from the compression unit~~ in different directivities-respectively.

6. *(Currently Amended)* An audio output apparatus comprising:

a frequency control unit that limits or emphasizes frequency bands of a plurality of input[[ted]] sound signals; and

an array speaker unit ~~which~~ having a plurality of speaker units and a delay circuit for each of the sound signals controlled by the frequency control unit,

wherein each of the speaker units receives a predetermined delay from one of the delay circuits to emit[[s]] a plurality of sounds from the speaker units in accordance with ~~the plurality of the sound signals outputted from~~ controlled by the frequency control unit in different directivities-respectively.

7. *(Currently Amended)* An audio output apparatus comprising:

a measuring circuit ~~which~~ that measures levels of a plurality of input[[ted]] sound signals;

a gain control circuit ~~which~~ that refers the levels measured by the measuring circuit and sets a gain coefficient to each of the sound signals;

a sound level adjusting circuit ~~which~~ that adjusts the levels of the sound signals based on the set gain coefficient; and

an array speaker unit ~~to which a plurality of sound signals adjusted at the level is inputted and which~~ having a plurality of speaker units and a delay circuit for each of the adjusted sound signals,

wherein each of the speaker units receives a predetermined delay from one of the delay circuits to emit[[s]] a plurality of sounds from the speaker units in accordance with the plurality of the adjusted sound signals in different directivities respectively.

8. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the gain control unit sets the gain coefficient so that the plurality of the levels of the input sound signals ~~inputted~~ is nearly equal to each other.

9. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the gain control unit includes an offset generating circuit ~~which~~ that adds a certain amount of an offset amount to at least one level among the levels measured by the measuring circuit.

10. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the gain control unit sets the gain coefficient so that dynamic ranges of the ~~plurality of~~ sound signals input[[ted]] to the array speaker unit ~~is~~ are made to have a predetermined value or below.

11. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a band pass filter to which ~~a plurality of the~~ sound signals ~~is~~ are input[[ted]] ~~and which~~ to limit[[s]] a frequency band of the sound signals.

12. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the sound signal limited in the frequency band by the band pass filter is output[[ted]] to the measuring circuit.

13. (*Currently Amended*) The audio output apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the sound signal limited in the frequency band by the band pass filter is output[[ted]] to the sound level adjusting circuit.

14. (*Canceled*)